

REMARKS

Claims 3, 4, 8 and 9 are currently pending. Claims 1, 2 and 5-7 have been canceled. Claim 3 has been amended and new claims 8-11 have been added.

Claim 3 has been written in independent form per the Examiner's suggestion. Support for new claims 8-11 is found at page 12, line 20 to page 13, line 2.

Applicants' Response to the Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Currently, claims 1, 2 and 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *JP 61-034,861*. Applicants respectfully submit that as claims 1, 2 and 5-7 have been canceled, the rejection is now moot. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and the application be allowed per the amendment to claim 3.

Applicants further respectfully submit that none of the cited prior art disclose the limitations of new claims 8 and 9.


For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. If, for any reason, it is believed that this application is not in condition for allowance, Examiner is encouraged to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number below to expedite the disposition of this case.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 10/055,373
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Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2004

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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